

STATE SENATOR • IRMA CLARK-COLEMAN • 3RD DISTRICT

Clark-Coleman Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SEN. CLARK-COLEMAN SEEKS TO INFORM CONSTITUENTS ON HOW TO USE FEDERAL “DO NOT CALL” LIST

Detroit Democrat Was Author of Legislation Creating Michigan “Do Not Call” Registry

(Lansing)- State Senator Irma Clark-Coleman (D-Detroit) is working to help inform constituents on how to sign up for the new federal “do not call” registry. By having their names added to the national registry, consumers will be able to avoid most telemarketing phone calls, beginning this fall.

“As the sponsor of the bill which helped to establish the Michigan ‘do not call’ registry, I applaud Congress for voting to establish a federal registry,” said Sen. Clark-Coleman. “This act will allow for more uniform enforcement throughout the United States and provide consumers with better protection from unscrupulous telemarketers.”

Beginning in July, consumers can register, free of charge, either online or by telephone to have their names placed on a national “do not call” registry. The FCC is scheduled to announce the toll free number and web site in June.

Sen. Clark-Coleman encouraged her constituents to register online, rather than by phone, to prevent delays. The initial sign-up by phone will be phased in by region due to the expected high volume of calls while online registration will be available immediately in July.

Once registered, consumer's names will remain on the registry for five years after which time they will need to renew their registration. The registration will take effect in September of 2003, at which time telemarketers will be required to "scrub" their lists of names on the registry every 90 days. Violators will be subject to an \$11,000 per violation fine.

Sen. Clark-Coleman was the original sponsor of HB 4632 which, signed into law last year, made violations of the home solicitation sales act an unfair practice under the Michigan Consumer Protection Act.
